

**Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claims 1-15 Canceled

Claim 16 (New)      A method of making a salt of S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine, comprising removing counterions from S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine dihydrochloride in solution by contacting S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine dihydrochloride in solution with an appropriate ion exchange membrane, separating the solution containing S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine from the ion exchange membrane, and contacting the S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine with at least one counterion other than hydrochloride ion.

Claim 17 (New)      The method of claim 16 wherein at least one counterion is a cation.

Claim 18 (New)      The method of claim 16 wherein at least one counterion is an anion.

Claim 19 (New)      The method of claim 16 wherein two stoichiometric counterions are contacted with S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)-amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine.

Claim 20 (New)      The method of claim 19 wherein two stoichiometric counterions are different from one another.